



**Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334**

Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

**Cover Sheet**

**Date:** 8/24/2022    **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study    **Arrival:** 9:00 AM    **Departure:** 1:30 PM

**CCLC-50806**

**Gordon Early Childhood Development Center**

7414 Fairmount Highway, SE Calhoun, GA 30701 Gordon County  
(770) 625-3306 donnisp@tallatooonacap.org

**Regional Consultant**

Twylah Tyner

Phone: (478) 599-9822

Fax: (478) 314-5868

twylah.tyner@dec.al.ga.gov

**Mailing Address**

Same

**Quality Rated:** No

<b>Compliance Zone Designation</b>		
08/24/2022	Initial Licensing Study	N/A

**Compliance Zone Designation** - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

**Good Standing** - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Support** - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.

**Deficient** - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

**Ratios/License Capacity**

Building	Room	Age Group	Staff	Children	NC/C	Max 35 SF.	35 SF. Comp.	Max 25 SF.	25 SF. Comp.	Notes
Main	A - 2nd Right	Four Year Olds	2	12	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	B - 1st Right	Three Year Olds	2	15	C	20	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	C - 3rd Right	Four Year Olds	2	11	C	25	C	NA	NA	Centers
Main	D - 2nd Left	Three Year Olds	2	13	C	19	C	NA	NA	Transitioning
Main	E - 3rd left	Three Year Olds	2	12	C	19	C	NA	NA	Circle Time
Main	F - 1st left		0	0	C	19	C	NA	NA	

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 127

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Total # Children this Date: 63

Total Capacity @35 sq. ft.: 127

Total Capacity @25 sq. ft.: 0

Building	Playground	Playground Occupancy	Playground Compliance
Main	A	86	C

**Comments**

An Administrative Review was conducted on August 24, 2022. Staff files, children's files, training, and background checks were all reviewed. An in person Initial Licensing Study was conducted on August 24, 2022. The exit conference was conducted on August 24, 2022 with the Director. Facility does carry Liability Insurance.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date 08/24/2022

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).



Please refer to the website, <http://www.dec.state.ga.us/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx> , for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee



### Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

As January 1, 2022, child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the new CAPS/QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward a star rating.

**Contact the Quality Rated help desk at 855-800-7747 or [qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us](mailto:qualityrated@dec.state.ga.us) for more information. Free technical assistance is available!**

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at <http://gbi.georgia.gov> to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

#### Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

- 1) Log into DECAL KOALA [www.decalkoala.com](http://www.decalkoala.com) with the userid for your program
- 2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
- 3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
- 4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.'

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia Logan, Program Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Twylah Tyner, Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



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**Findings Report**

**Date:** 8/24/2022 **VisitType:** Initial Licensing Study **Arrival:** 9:00 AM **Departure:** 1:30 PM

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Same

The following information is associated with a Initial Licensing Study:

**Activities and Equipment**

**591-1-1-.12 Equipment & Toys(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A variety of equipment and toys were observed throughout the center.

**Comment**

Equipment and furniture observed to be properly secured, as applicable.

**591-1-1-.35 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center does not provide swimming activities. No pool observed on site.

**Children's Records**

**Records Reviewed: 5**

**Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

Child # 1	Met
Child # 2	Met
Child # 3	Met
Child # 4	Met
Child # 5	Met

**591-1-1-.08 Children's Records**

**Technical Assistance**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.08 - Ensure children's files have complete addresses for authorized release to persons.

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**591-1-1-.06 Bathrooms**

**Not Met**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.06(2) requires the Center to have bathrooms located on each floor in or adjacent to child care areas and rooms. It was determined based on observation that bathroom were not located adjacent to Classroom D.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will apply for a variance for adjacent bathrooms by September 8, 2022.

**Correction Deadline: 9/8/2022**

**Finding**

591-1-1-.06(4) requires a Center first licensed after March 1, 1991, and Centers that remodel or add to existing plumbing facilities, to have the bathroom area fully enclosed and ventilated to the outside of the building with either an open screened window or functioning exhaust fan and duct system and requires Centers without fully enclosed bathrooms to ensure there is adequate ventilation to control odors and adequate sanitation measures to prevent the spread of contagious diseases. It was determined based on observation that bathrooms throughout the Center did not have adequate ventilation to control odors.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will apply for a variance regarding bathroom ventilation by September 8, 2022.

**Correction Deadline: 9/8/2022**

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**591-1-1-.19 License Capacity(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Licensed capacity observed to be routinely met by center. The overall licensed capacity of the center is 127 children.

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**591-1-1-.25 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Please be mindful to keep items that pose a hazard inaccessible to children.

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**591-1-1-.26 Playgrounds(CR)**

**Not Met**

**Technical Assistance**

591-1-1-.26 - Ensure there are no hazards on the playground.

**Comment**

Discussed maintenance of resilient surface. Please fluff and redistribute.

**Finding**

591-1-1-.26(4) requires that playgrounds be protected from traffic or other hazards by a (4) four foot high fence or other barrier approved by this Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children and shall be maintained so as to prevent children from leaving the playground area by any means other than through an approved access route. Fence gates shall be kept closed except when persons are entering or exiting the area. It was determined based on observation of consultant that the fence height ranged from three feet and one inch (3' 1") to three feet and 10 inches (3' 10") where four feet (4') is required.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will routinely check the fence to determine if it is in good repair and remains at least 4 feet high, and will repair any hazards. The Center will train Staff to identify and report any fence hazards and to keep the fence gates closed when not in use.

**Correction Deadline: 9/8/2022**

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**591-1-1-.10 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR)****Met****Comment**

There were no children enrolled in the program that require diapering.

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**591-1-1-.17 Hygiene(CR)****Not Met****Finding**

591-1-1-17(7) requires that children wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for care, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after eating meals and snacks, handling or touching food, playing in water; after toileting and diapering, playing in sand, touching animals or pets, and contact with bodily fluids and after contamination by any other means. It was determined based on observation that handwashing sinks for children throughout the center did not have warm running water.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will apply for a variance for warm running water by September 8, 2022.

**Correction Deadline: 9/8/2022****Finding**

591-1-1-.17(8) requires staff to wash their hands with liquid soap and warm running water upon arrival for the day, when moving from one child care group to another, upon re-entering the child care area after outside play, before and after diapering each child, dispensing medication, applying topical medications, handling and preparing food, eating, drinking, preparing bottles, feeding each child, assisting children with eating and drinking, after toileting or assisting children with toileting, using tobacco products, handling garbage and organic waste, touching animals or pets, handling bodily fluids and after contamination by any means. It was determined based on observation that handwashing sinks throughout the center did not have warm running water.

**POI (Plan of Improvement)**

The Center will apply for a variance regarding warm running water by September 8, 2022.

**Correction Deadline: 9/8/2022**

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**591-1-1-.20 Medications(CR)****Met****Comment**

Discussed medication documentation, administration, and storage.

**Safety**

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**591-1-1-.11 Discipline(CR)****Met****Comment**

Appropriate discipline was observed.

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**591-1-1-.13 Field Trips(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not participate in field trips at this time.

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**591-1-1-.36 Transportation(CR)****Met****Comment**

Center does not provide routine transportation or field trips. Consultant discussed transportation requirements if/when the facility decides to incorporate transportation. The center will contact their regional consultant and complete the required two (2) hours transportation training prior to transporting children.

**Sleeping & Resting Equipment**

**Comment**

Center does not plan to serve infants and no cribs were evaluated on this date. The correct number of cots/mats, sheets, and cover were observed on this date.

<b>Staff Records</b>
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**Records Reviewed: 19****Records with Missing/Incomplete Components: 0**

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Staff # 1	Met
Staff # 2	Met
Staff # 3	Met
Staff # 4	Met
Staff # 5	Met
Staff # 6	Met
Staff # 7	Met
Staff # 8	Met
Staff # 9	Met
Staff # 10	Met
Staff # 11	Met
Staff # 12	Met
Staff # 13	Met
Staff # 14	Met
Staff # 15	Met
Staff # 16	Met
Staff # 17	Met
Staff # 18	Met
Staff # 19	Met

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**Staff Credentials Reviewed: 8**

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**591-1-1-.09 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR)****Met****Comment**

Nineteen (19) of nineteen (19) staff records were observed to have comprehensive satisfactory Criminal Background Check determination letters on file.

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**591-1-1-.31 Staff(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

<b>Staffing and Supervision</b>
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**591-1-1-.32 Staff:Child Ratios and Group Size(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

Center observed to maintain appropriate staff:child ratios.

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**591-1-1-.32 Supervision(CR)**

**Met**

**Comment**

A supervision plan was created on this date due to bathrooms being located outside the classroom. In addition, a supervision plan was created due to the route to the playground.

**Comment**

Adequate supervision observed on this date.